BULLETIN 46

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Of the

DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE

Of the

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Adopted Pursuant to the Act of May 6, 1929, No. 473

Regulating Certain Maternity Hospitals of Cities
of the Third Class, Boroughs, Towns
and Townships

Adopted 1929

P38.29

1. Form for application for license may be obtained by addressing the State Department of Welfare, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

2. Application shall be accompanied by bank draft or post office money order for ten (10) dollars, payable to the State Treasurer, and shall be mailed to the State Department of Welfare, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

3. License issued is valid for one year from date of issue.

4. Application for annual renewal of license shall be made upon form to be furnished by the Department of Welfare.

5. Licenses issued are subject to revocation for violation of the laws of this Commonwealth or these rules and regulations.

6. Violation of the Act of May 6, 1929, No. 473, is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) or imprisonment not exceeding one year or both.

7. When application is made by an agency, association or organization, it must be signed by its chief officer, and must be accompanied by a copy of its rules and regulations and if incorporated, a copy of its by-laws and a reference to the record of its charter.

8. Upon change in name, ownership or management of licensee or location of hospital or home, the license shall become void and shall be returned. A new application must be filed as provided in these rules.

9. License must be displayed in a public and conspicuous place in the home or hospital.

10. All certificates and reports required by law or these regulations must be signed in the name of the licensee.

Every licensee must provide and keep a register (not loose leaf) as provided by law wherein he shall enter the name and address of every maternity patient, the date of admission and discharge of every patient, the name and sex of every child born or boarded on the premises, date of birth, names and residence of father and mother, date of marriage, the date of removal of the child, the name and address of the person taking it away, and, if relinquished by the mother, the date of relinquishment, the name and address of the person to whom the child is relinquished, and the reasons therefore; and if adopted, the date of adoption, the name of the person signing the consent to adoption, and the name and address of the person adopting the child.

All licensed hospitals, wards or homes shall be subject to the visitation or inspection at any time by the State Department of Welfare granting the said license, or any duly assigned agent or officer approved by the State Department of Welfare. The owner or person in charge of a maternity hospital shall give the inspectors of the State Department of Welfare all information required and shall afford them every facility for examining the records, inspecting the premises, and seeing the inmates, and inquiring into all matters concerning such hospital or home and the inmates thereof.

11. Violation of the rules and regulations of either the Department of Health, the Department of Labor and Industry or the Department of Welfare of the Commonwealth adopted pursuant to any law or laws of this Commonwealth to safeguard human life and health will, after notice of violation thereof, be sufficient cause for revocation of a license.

12. For the purpose of determining the fitness of an applicant for license, the professional and administrative training and experience of the operating staff will be taken into consideration, as well as the familiarity of the director, superintendent or manager with the provisions of the general law and the rules and regulations of the Department of Welfare, the Department of Health, and the Department of Labor and Industry, adopted pursuant to law, for the safeguarding of human life and health, and the applicant must give evidence satisfactory to the Secretary of Welfare of ownership or control of, or capacity to provide, a plant and equipment conforming to the minimum standards herein provided.

13. For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of the Act of May 6, 1929, No. 473, maternity hospitals are classified according to equipment and management as follows:

Class A. Separate Class A building with complete equipment caring for maternity patients only.

Class B. Hospital or home with separate maternity department with fully equipped delivery room and nursery (this department may be a unit within the hospital proper).

Class C. General hospital or home with either delivery room or nursery, and general hospital using the operating room for delivery and any hospital or home that does not have a separate maternity service completely apart from all other activities.

Class D. Private homes and institutions that give boarding care during the pre-natal period or during the confinement and post-natal care to mother and infant.

14. For the purpose of determining the suitability of the place and equipment for the purposes of a maternity home or hospital the plant and equipment must meet the following minimum standards:

Physical Equipment, Classes A, B and C

a. All rooms and wards occupied by patients shall be outside rooms and the window space shall not be less than one-fifth of the floor space.

b. The rooms and wards shall be of sufficient size to allow not less than 800 cubic feet of air space and 100 square feet of floor space for each adult patient and 250 cubic feet of air space for each infant therein.

c. All plumbing, drainage and other arrangements for the disposal of excreta and household waste shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Department of Health and local health ordinances.

d. Toilets and hoppers shall be properly and adequately ventilated to the external air.

e. In order that the heating of all rooms shall be safe and adequate no gas stove shall be used which is not directly connected with an outside flue and all gas connections must be of metal piping.

f. Fire protection shall be aeeording to the rules and regulations now in force or hereafter adopted by the State Department of Labor and Industry. These standards will be furnished with the applieation.

g. Provision for isolation of eommunicable diseases shall be made.

h. There shall be adequate equipment for bathing of mothers and infants.

i. An adequate supply of elean bedding, body linen, and towels shall be kept on hand at all times. (A good standard to follow: for eaeh bed provide on basis of 6 sheets, 3 spreads, 6 face towels, 6 turkish towels, 4 wash eloths, 4 bath blankets, 4 bed blankets).

j. Bed pan sterilizers and utensil sterilizers are reeommended for hospitals. Sterilization of bed pans after eaeh use is the only sure means of protection of patients.

Delivery Room, Class A, B and C

a. A delivery room shall be provided. It must be used exelusively for the delivery of patients.

b. It shall be properly ventilated, good light provided, and adequately heated.

e. The floors and walls and eeiling shall be of sueh material as will permit of being easily washed. Provision must be made for sterilization of water basins, instruments and dressings. There shall be hot and eold running water with a properly trapped and vented basin.

d. The delivery room shall be equipped with a delivery table or bed, a basket or crib, instrument table, irrigating apparatus, instrument eabinet, basins, pitehers, receptacle for diseharges. There shall be an ample supply of sterile linen and dressings and packing. Drugs ordinarily used must be in evidenee and oxygen apparatus for resuseitation of mother is neeessary.

e. Two resuseitation basins for infant shall be in room constantly.

Nursery, Classes A, B and C

a. A separate room for a nursery shall be provided and it shall have outside ventilation.

b. Infant's eribs, baskets or basinettes shall be separate and shall have firm, clean mattresses eovered with rubber sheeting and washable pads. **Each infant shall have a separate bed and they shall not be conveyed to mothers on a common cart.**

c. The nursery shall be provided with adequate bathing facilities, a properly proteeted dressing table and correct seales. A eovered eontainer for soiled linen shall be ineluded.

d. A dressing tray shall be set up at all times ineluding sterile gauze, eotton, medium and small safety pins, bottle of aleohol 70%, pure milk soap, a proper sterile lubrieant (alboline or olive oil), borie aeid solution, powder, eord dressings for infant.

e. Bottles and nipples shall be properly sterilized after each use, and there shall be evidence that nipples are handled under asceptic precautions.

f. A minimum of 18 diapers per child shall be provided for each 24 hours. **Freshly laundered diapers only** shall be used.

g. Hot water bottle covers shall be used should hot water bottles be ordered by the physicians.

Care of Patients, Classes A, B, C and D

Maternity isolation departments should be provided with adequate running water and all other facilities essential to prevent the spread of venereal or other communicable diseases.

Physical Equipment, Class D

a. All rooms occupied by patients shall be outside rooms and the window space shall not be less than one-fifth of the floor space.

b. The rooms shall be of sufficient size to allow not less than 800 cubic feet of air space and 100 square feet of floor space for each adult patient and 250 cubic feet of air space for each infant therein. Ventilation shall conform with State Housing Laws.

c. All plumbing, drainage and other arrangements for the disposal of excreta and household waste shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Department of Health and local health ordinances.

d. Toilets and hoppers shall be properly and adequately ventilated to the external air.

e. In order that the heating of all rooms shall be safe and adequate no gas stove shall be used which is not directly connected with an outside flue and all gas connections must be of metal piping.

f. Fire protection shall be according to the rules and regulations of the local fire commission or city ordinance and the rules and regulations of the State Department of Labor and Industry. These standards will be furnished with the application.

g. There shall be sanitary equipment for thorough bathing of patients and infants.

h. An adequate supply of clean bedding and body linen and towels shall be kept on hand at all times.

i. Provision for the sterilization of utensils, instruments and bed pans shall be made.

For Delivery, Class D

a. A suitable bed or obstetrical table shall be provided.

b. At least three pitchers.

c. Two basins.

d. Two tubs or basins for resuscitation.

e. A covered pail for waste material.

f. Ample supply of sterile dressings, towels, leggings and sheets.

g. Wooden blocks four and six inches high shall be provided for use in case of hemorrhage where surgical bed is not in use.

h. Provision for plenty of hot and cold sterile water at all times.

i. Supplies such as cord dressings, lysol, nitrate of silver (1%) argyrol shall be at all times maintained.

For Infants, Class D

a. Separate cribs or basinettes for babies—clean mattresses covered with rubber sheeting and clean flannel blankets are to be used.

b. Correct scales for weighing infants.

c. Nitrate of silver, one per cent solution.

d. A tray or basket equipped with necessary articles to be used in dressing and caring for infants, to contain sterile gauze, absorbent cotton, medium and small safety pins, cotton applicators, bottle of alcohol, castile soap, a lubricant (albolene or olive oil), boric acid solution, good talcum powder, cord dressing for infant.

e. Nipples and bottles shall be sterilized after each use and there shall be evidence that they are handled under asceptic precautions.

f. A minimum of 18 diapers per child shall be provided for each 24 hours. **Freshly laundered diapers only** shall be used.

g. Hot water bottle covers shall be used if the doctor should order hot water bottles.

For Mother, Class D

a. Clean piece of rubber sheeting for each patient's bed.

b. Metal douche cans. **Not Rubber irrigating bags.**

c. Glass tips and nozzles—to be boiled before and after using and kept in an antiseptic solution.

d. Clinical thermometers; sufficient to provide for individual use.

15. The licensee is required to observe the following rules for the care of patients:

a. It is very important that each maternity hospital or home shall have a prenatal service.

b. Immediately upon the beginning of labor a legally qualified physician or midwife shall be notified and shall be present and in attendance at the time of birth.

c. For infants' eyes see "For Delivery, Class D (i)."

d. The rights of the child to be breast fed shall be considered paramount, and every possible effort made to have every baby breast fed by its own mother while she is in the institution. If for any reason that is impossible, the feeding and selection of the food shall be under the direction of a registered

physician. If a wet nurse is provided, she shall show evidence that she is free from tuberculosis, venereal and other communicable disease and must be approved by the physician in charge.

Each licensee shall use due diligence to prevent the abandonment of children. A licensee shall not advertise that he will procure the adoption of children nor hold out inducements to mothers to part with their offspring.

No licensee may place any infant in a free foster home or in any family for the purpose of adoption. In the case of an abandoned child or some other special situation requiring placement away from the mother, such placement must be made through an approved society incorporated for that purpose. A report of such action by the licensee must be sent within twenty-four hours to the Department of Welfare. In localities where no such incorporated accredited society is available, the licensee must secure the written approval of the Department of Welfare or its authorized representative for the placement of such infant by the licensee.

16. Each maternity hospital or home shall employ at least one graduate registered nurse who shall present evidence of adequate training and experience in accredited obstetrical services.

17. The maternity home or hospital shall, whenever possible, recommend to every prospective patient that she should have:

a. Her urine examined regularly—every two weeks until the eighth month, then every week.

b. Her blood pressure taken regularly.

c. Complete physical examination, including pelvic measurements, early in pregnancy, and an obstetrical examination after the seventh month.

d. A Wasserman blood test.